

# **Community-Based Job Training Grants**

## *Gateway Community and Technical College*

**Grantee:** Gateway Community and Technical College

**Industry Focus:** Healthcare

**Key Partners:** Northern Kentucky Workforce Investment Board (WIB) with its One-Stop Career Centers; Kentucky TECH Area Technology Centers; Northern Kentucky Council of Partners (P-12 Council); North Central Area Health Education Center (AHEC); St. Elizabeth Medical Center; and St. Luke Hospitals

**Grant Amount:** \$866,095

**Leveraged Amount:** \$1,325,662

**Location of Grant Activities:** Boone, Campbell, Carroll, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, Pendleton and Owen counties of northern Kentucky

**Challenge:** Northern Kentucky faces a particularly acute nursing shortage because it's a predominantly rural region with an aging population in need of healthcare. Nurses are in high demand, and educational programs at Gateway Community and Technical College are currently operating at maximum capacity. Enrollment has remained level due to limited classroom and laboratory space, limited availability of lab equipment, and difficulty in hiring qualified faculty. Regional long-term care providers have expressed a need to increase the skills of Nursing Assistants so they can assume more direct care responsibilities. The graduation rate for registered nurses averages only 56 percent due to lack of adequate financial, academic, and student support services.

**Addressing the Challenge:** The Northern Kentucky Regional Nursing Expansion Project will train current and future nurses to meet regional workforce demands. The project will expand the training capacity of Gateway's nursing education program at each step in the career ladder by adding faculty to increase the number of nursing education classes. A Nursing Student Resource Center will be created to provide students with intensive academic assistance and connect them with financial resources. The Center will be open evenings and weekends to better serve those already in the workforce. Traditional nursing programs will be supplemented with non-traditional learning methods and will utilize weekend, evening, and Web-enhanced classes. A new Advanced Nursing Assistant certificate will be added, and scholarship funding will be increased. Minority and rural students most at risk of dropping out will be targeted for services.

### **Projected Outcomes:**

- 200 students will enroll, and 185 will complete training during the grant period
- 53 secondary students per year will participate in dual credit / dual enrollment programs
- By the third year, 85 percent of adult participants will enter employment and 88 percent will be retained, achieving a six-month earnings increase of \$2,700